State/UT	Projected Population 2000 (in lakhs)	% BPL as per experts group	No. of households 2000 (in lakhs)	No. of BPL households 2000 (in lakhs)	Fair Price Shops			Ration Cards (in lakhs)			No. of card per FPS	Reported as on
					Rural	Urban	Total	BPL	APL	Total		
Nagaland	16.84	40.85	3.02	1.24	138	213	351	0.%	1.05	201	573	March,
Orissa	358.57	48.56	67.91	32.98	20824	3841	24665	41.23	39.85	81.08	329	Dec. 99
Punjab	235.36	11.77	39.76	4.68	9514	4401	13915	5.01.	50.01	55.02	395	May, 01
Rajasthan	656.59	27.41	88.67	24.31	14403	4555	18958	22.97	81.36	104.23	550	June, 00
Sikkim	5.59	41.43	1.05	0.43	519	359	878	NA	NA	0.66	75	Oct. 97
Tamilnadu	617.74	36.03	138.82	48.63	21602	5981	27583	65.51	93.32	158.83	676	April,
Tripura	37.82	40.86	7.22	2.95	1185	174	1359	2.31	4.52	6.83	503	April,
U.P.	1701.88	40.85	273.61	111.77	65557	11905	77462	95.48	159.95	255.44	330	July, 98
West Bengal	790.06	36.66	145.23	51.79	15673	4842	20515	46.49	110.32	156.81	764	Oct, 00
A&N Island	3.86	3.47	0.81	0.28	2%	118	404	0.12	0.74	0.86	213	Oct, 00
Chandigarh	8.88	11.35	2.03	0.23	41	177	218	0.00	2.12	2.12	972	April,
D&N Haveli	1.90	60.84	0.36	0.18	78	NA	78	0.16	0.17	0.33	423	May, 01
Daman &	1.40	15.80	0.26	0.04	7	5	13	0.02	0.28	0.30	2308	May, 00
Delhi	139.64	14.69	27.82	4.09	428	2739	3167	NA	36.55	36.55	1154	Oct, 00
Lakshadweep	0.71	25.04	0.11	0.03	21	14	35	NA	0.13	0.13	371	May 01
Pondicherry	11.11	37.40	2.24	0.84	170	233	403	0.91	1.71	2.62	650	June, 01
Total	9969.44		1803.68	652.04	37141 2	91527	46293 9	730.85	1252.33	1983.84	429	

Central issue prices of foodgrains

1227. DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reduce the central issue prices of foodgrains distributed under the Public Distribution System and food-for-work scheme;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) by when a decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) to (c) The Government has reduced the Central Issue Price of wheat from Rs. 83CV- per quintal to Rs. 61(y- per quintal and for rice from Rs. 113C- per quintal to Rs. 83(K per quintal for APL families with effect from 12.7.2001 till 31.3.2002 or till surplus stocks last, whichever is earlier. The BPL prices, which were to be raised on 1.10.2000 for rice and 1.4.2001 for wheat have been retained at the existing levels.

As decided by the Government on 2.11.2000, foodgrains are available for allotment to States^UTs for Food for Work Programme at present at BPL rates which are Rs. 41 y- per quintal for wheat and Rs. 565/- per quintal for rice. Foodgrains have also been allotted free of cost to drought affected States as an additionality under the Food-for-Work Programme launched by the Ministry of Rural Development in the drought affected areas.

Shortage of storage capacity in West Bengal

1228. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed in the meeting of the Chief Ministers that responsibility of running the PDS should henceforth be of the State Government and they should take up procurement and distribution of PDS items;